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## Vocabulary related to bamboo and bamboo products

*Vocabulaire relatif au bambou et aux produits en bambou*

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## Foreword

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Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).  
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## Introduction

Bamboo belongs to the subfamily *Bambusoideae* of the grass family (*Gramineae/Poaceae*). There are nearly 1 642 bamboo species, including 1 521 woody bamboos, distributed naturally in tropical and warm temperate areas. There are 3 tribes of bamboos, which are *Arundinarieae* (32 genus); *Bambuseae* tribe (69 genus); and herb-bamboo dominated by *Olyreae* tribe (22 genus)<sup>1</sup>. Depending on the species and growing location, most bamboo species can grow rapidly up to 1,2 m per day<sup>2</sup>.

The current utilization of bamboo worldwide is varying from construction to human's various necessities, i.e. handicraft, musical instruments, kitchen utensils, fibre-based products (i.e. textile, shoes, etc.), medicinal treatment, food, etc. Due to increasing bamboo utilization for daily life, harmonization of the terms used is required in order to minimize confusion or conflicts and attain universal understanding.

The terms and descriptions contained in this International Standard have been mainly constituted to represent internationally recognized terms applied to bamboo and bamboo products (semi/intermediate and final). The descriptions of the terms are created for general understanding by the bamboo experts, industry, consumers and other stakeholders.

The sources used during this International Standard development have been the most recent scientific documents and/or standards (international, regional or domestic), either published or under development. Descriptions sourced from standards are worded as closely as possible to that appearing in the standards. However, where necessary modifications have been made for several descriptions following review between standards, a note appears after the term expressing the adaptation of its description from the standards.

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# Vocabulary related to bamboo and bamboo products

## 1 Scope

This document defines terms related to bamboo, intermediate bamboo and bamboo products.

This document is applicable to bamboo, intermediate bamboo and bamboo products in production and trade.

## 2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

## 3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

### 3.1 Terms for bamboo

#### 3.1.1

##### **bamboo**

tropical, semitropical or temperate fast-growing grass with lignocellulose matrix and usually having hollow culms

Note 1 to entry: Grasses classified within the subfamily *Bambusoideae*, including the temperate woody bamboos (*Arundinarieae*), tropical woody bamboos (*Bambuseae*), and herbaceous bamboos (*Olyreae*).

#### 3.1.2

##### **bamboo culm**

single shoot of *bamboo* (3.1.1) comprised of the entire unaltered bamboo cross-section, which is usually a hollow cylinder, except at *bamboo nodes* (3.1.7)

[SOURCE: ISO 22157:2019, 3.1]

#### 3.1.3

##### **bamboo outer layer**

hard, compact sheath of *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) which is exposed to the external environment

#### 3.1.4

##### **bamboo inner layer**

soft inside layer of the *bamboo culm* (3.1.2), serving as boundary to the hollow central portion of the culm

#### 3.1.5

##### **bamboo culm wall**

solid part of *bamboo culm* (3.1.2)

### 3.1.6

#### **bamboo internode**

usually hollow region of *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) between two *nodes* (3.1.7) at which diameter and wall thickness are defined

[SOURCE: ISO 19624:2018, 3.9, modified — The word "bamboo" has been added in the term.]

### 3.1.7

#### **bamboo node**

transverse *diaphragm* (3.1.8) region located along the length of the *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) separating adjacent *internodes* (3.1.6), which, when alive, is a location of leaf growth

[SOURCE: ISO 22157:2019, 3.11, modified — The word "bamboo" has been added in the term and the word "intermittent" has been removed from definition.]

### 3.1.8

#### **bamboo diaphragm**

hard, rigid inner plate inside the bamboo *node* (3.1.7)

### 3.1.9

#### **bamboo rhizome**

underground, segmented part of bamboo from which the bamboo *shoot* (3.1.12) emerges

### 3.1.10

#### **bamboo culm sheath**

usually large, overlapping metamorphosed leaves, borne singly at each node of the culm proper and protect/cover the emerging new shoot/branch in *bamboo* (3.1.1)

### 3.1.11

#### **bamboo foliage leaves**

usually photosynthetic organ of a plant characterized by a sheath and a blade that emerges from the branches

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### 3.1.12

#### **bamboo shoot**

young sprout produced by the rhizome of a *bamboo* (3.1.1)

### 3.1.13

#### **bamboo clump**

##### **clump**

cluster of *bamboo shoots* (3.1.12) emanating from two or more rhizomes at the same location

[SOURCE: ISO 22157:2019, 3.2]

### 3.1.14

#### **bamboo plantation**

land area in which *bamboo* (3.1.1) is planted and managed

### 3.1.15

#### **green bamboo**

fresh *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) with high moisture content (usually more than 30 %) which has not undergone any treatment

## 3.2 Terms for intermediate bamboo products

### 3.2.1

#### **bamboo culm section**

certain length of *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) obtained by cross cutting



**3.2.2****bamboo split**

bamboo piece with *outer* (3.1.3) and *inner layers* (3.1.4) remained, made by a longitudinal cut of a *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) section

**3.2.3****bamboo strip**

long, thin and flat bamboo piece with rectangular cross section, processed from *bamboo split* (3.2.2) and with the *outer* (3.1.3) and *inner layers* (3.1.4) removed

**3.2.4****bamboo sliver**

long, thin, and narrow piece cut from *bamboo strip* (3.2.3) or *split* (3.2.2)

**3.2.5****flattened bamboo**

piece of *bamboo culm* (3.1.2) pressed to level the surface

**3.2.6****bamboo interlaced mat**

mat made of woven *bamboo slivers* (3.2.4), used for walls, ceiling, and other bamboo-based panel products

**3.2.7****bamboo parallel-woven mat or bamboo curtain**

mat made of parallel-woven *bamboo slivers* (3.2.4), mainly used for bamboo-based panel products

**3.2.8****bamboo fibre bundle strip**

pressure rolled *bamboo strip* (3.2.3) or *split* (3.2.4), resulting in cross-linked fibre bundles, used to produce *bamboo scrimber* (3.2.17)

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**3.2.9****bamboo fibre bundle sheet**

mat made of several *bamboo fibre bundle strips* (3.2.8) mainly for *bamboo scrimber* (3.2.17) production

**3.2.10****bamboo stick**

long, thin *bamboo strip* (3.2.3) with or without sharp pointed end and uniform dimension along its length

**3.2.11****bamboo particle**

small bamboo elements including flake, needle, granular-like, or strand

**3.2.12****bamboo chip**

small fragment of bamboo chopped or broken by chipper or hammer mill and mainly used for pulp

**3.2.13****bamboo strand**

manufactured bamboo element of a predetermined shape with an average length of more than 50 mm and average thickness less than 2 mm

[SOURCE: ISO 16894:2009, 3.1.7, modified — The word "bamboo" has been added in the term and the word "wood" has been replaced by "bamboo" in the definition.]